



MARAD Update



Official Journal of the Maritime Administration

Volume 4, Issue 12

COLORFUL CEREMONY CELEBRATES REFLAGGING OF M/V ALLIANCE NEW YORK

Maritime Security Program Fleet Complete with 60 Ships

A shipside audience applauded as a giant American flag unfurled over the side of the M/V *Alliance New York* in Baltimore Harbor on November 10. The colorful U.S.-flag dedication ceremony celebrated the entrance of the ship into the U.S.-registry commercial fleet, and into the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) Maritime Security Program (MSP).

Speaking at the ceremony, Deputy Maritime Administrator John Jamian said, "The M/V *Alliance New York* has particular significance for our national future. It is symbolic of the rising tide of the rebuilding of the American merchant marine—a movement that is well under way and gathering momentum."



The M/V Alliance New York departing the Baltimore harbor after the reflagging ceremony.

The U.S.-flag registry means U.S. jobs: crew members of MSP ships must be U.S. citizens. The *Alliance New York* is one of ten ships that changed its registry from foreign to U.S. this year in order to join the MSP fleet.

MARAD's Maritime Security Program has created more than 2,400 merchant mariner jobs on 60 MSP ships. Congress authorized the expansion this year of the MSP fleet from 47 ships, and the expansion alone created 200 jobs for mariners. MSP serves to maintain an active, privately-owned, U.S.-flag and U.S.-crewed fleet in international trade. This fleet is available to the U.S. Armed Forces in time of international conflict or emergency.

The *Alliance New York* is a roll-on/roll-off ship, or RO/RO, meaning that its main cargo is vehicles. The ship was loaded before the ceremony and went right back to work, departing with cargo for Wilmington, Delaware.